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**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Rajiv Kehr, et al. Examiner: To be assigned  
Serial No. 10/684,068 Group Art Unit: To be assigned  
Filed: October 9, 2003 Docket No. 60210-010101  
Title: SURGICAL SCALPEL WITH PROTECTIVE SHEATH

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

Date of Mailing: June 10, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated, and addressed to MAIL STOP: IDS, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

  
Name: Katie Yazgulian**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [37 C.F.R. § 1.56]**

MAIL STOP: IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of any cited foreign documents. Copies of the U.S. references are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491

in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;

- 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) above of this section, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:
  - a. A statement that:
    - (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
    - (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;
  - b. The fee for filing an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is \$180.00.
- 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:
  - a. A statement that:
    - (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

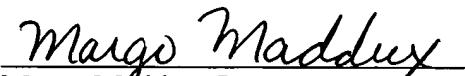
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;
- b. A petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement; and
- c. The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Applicant would appreciate the examiner initialing and signing a copy of attached Form PTO-1449 indicating that he or she considered the information and made the information of record.

If the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the PTO determines that an extension or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO-1449	JUN 14 2004	Attorney Docket Number	60210-010101
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1		Application Number	10/684,068
		Filing Date	October 9, 2003
		Applicant(s)	Rajiv Kehr, et al.
		Group Art Unit	To be assigned
		Examiner Name	To be assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 2,215,125	09-17-1940	Maltz, M.			
	US 4,719,915	01-19-1988	Porat et al.			
	US 4,823,457	04-25-1989	Prochaska			
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	US 6,015,419	01-18-2000	Strome et al.			
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	US 6,053,929	04-25-2000	Cohn et al.			
	US 6,254,621 B1	07-03-2001	Shackelford et al.			
	US 6,263,577 B1	07-24-2001	Wonderley			

FORM PTO-1449		Attorney Docket Number	60210-010101
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 2		Application Number	10/684,068
		Filing Date	October 9, 2003
		Applicant(s)	Rajiv Kehr, et al.
		Group Art Unit	To be assigned
		Examiner Name	To be assigned

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	Des. 165,338	12-04-1951	McNutt, C.E.			
	Des. 223,795	06-13-1972	Covey, Laird F.			
	Des. 270,372	08-30-1983	Russo et al.			
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	Des. 327,125	06-16-1992	Iten			
	Des. 336,029	06-01-1993	Ragland et al.			
	Des. 352,882	11-29-1994	Schmidt			
	Des. 360,817	08-01-1995	Moyer, Jr. et al.			
	Des. 399,720	10-20-1998	Owens et al.			
	Des. 455,061 S	04-02-2002	Huang			
	US 2002/0056198 A1	05-16-2002	Ping			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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